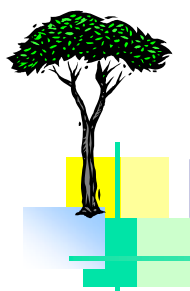
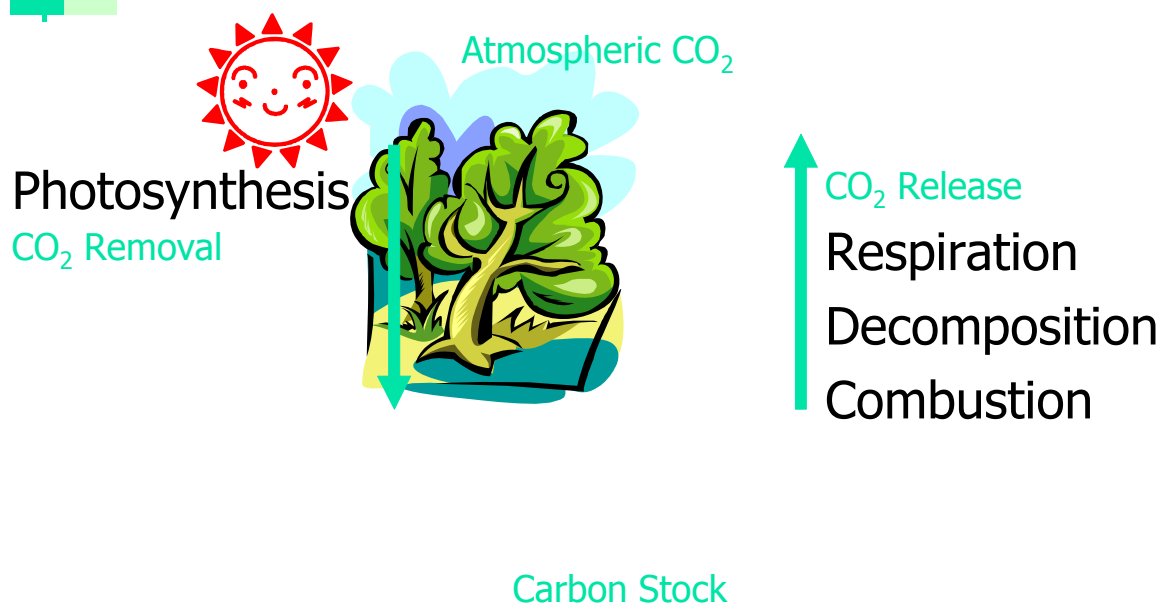


**WORLD VISION ETHIOPIA, South Branch Office,  
Humbo ADP  
Humbo/Soddo Community Based Forest  
Management Project**



## Forests and CO<sub>2</sub> Flows



November, 2006

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**Humbo/Soddo Community Based Forest Management Project**  
**Site maps**



# **WORLD VISION ETHIOPIA, HUMBO/SODDO COMMUNITY BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT PROJECT (H/SCBFMP) ACTIVITY ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT**

**Branch**----- SBO  
**ADPs**----- Humbo and Soddo  
**Reporting period**----- FY'2006  
**Reported by**----- Asfaw Mariame and  
(Assefa Tofu) edited  
**Signature** -----  
**Date** ----- 30/10/2006

## **1. PROJECT OVER VIEW**

### **1.1 General**

Humbo/Soddo Community Based Forest Management Project (H/SCBFMP) is a reforestation forestry project designed for sequestration of carbon through bio-diverse native of natural forest managed by the local community organized as cooperative societies and simultaneously reduction of poverty in the Humbo and Soddo with support of education, health and food security carbon funds. The project is the first of its kind in Ethiopia. This makes the project unique in its nature compared to other Participatory Forest Management (PFM) Projects exercised for wood production for certain years.

Ethiopia ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on 31 May 1994 and the Kyoto protocol on 21 February 2005 as non- annex I party.

Since the Kyoto Protocol recognized the role that changes in the use of land and forests have on global carbon cycle, annex 1 countries can use credits generated by sequestering carbon or by reducing carbon emissions from land use to help them reach their reduction target. This means that industrialized countries could offset some of their emissions by investing in projects in non-industrialized nations (CDM article 12). With this regard, the communities in the project area who manage the forest will benefit from the carbon credits that could be used for sustainable development and the annex 1 countries also benefit as the forests could play role in carbon emission reduction to reach their target of emission reduction. The carbon purchase process is will be effected by World Bank BioCarbon Fund according to the purchase agreement that will be signed soon.

Experience shows that degraded forests are restocked with genuine participation of local communities. Such participation should be starting from problem identification then to implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects. This will lead to envisaged community ownership and in turn to sustainability as a result of exclusive user right granted and attractive benefits gained. This implies that people have legal access and manage the project to the best of the driving environment and market.

Accordingly, the project Design Document (PDD) is under process by the World Bank, World Vision Australia and World Vision Ethiopia. Currently, the draft document refined/produced by WB consultant commented by all team members. The final draft is expected to be ready very soon to sign the Emission Purchase Agreement.

WVE is facilitating the whole process and backstopping for the benefit of the community. Long experience on working with the community, has been helping the facilitation easy and achievable for WVE who is doing this with hired experienced staff at ADP, project level with full support from BO/PO and HO.

The over goal of WVE ADPs program is **to ensure food security at household level**. Therefore, this project goal goes hand in hand with the organization goal and also the country sustainable development goal. The project ensures sustainable conservation/regeneration of the natural resource, enhanced by regulating environment, increasing access to wood products, honey, fodder, medicine, fiber, fruit (food) and shelter to wildlife that will add to household economy and other income generating activities including the income from carbon sell.

The identified degraded project site forest conservation/regeneration will reduce environment degradation by increasing vegetation cover that will reduce runoff and increasing ground water year round flow of springs and rivers. Flooding at the lower area of the catchments where many community members are living will expected to be reduced. Therefore, there are direct and indirect benefits to the communities and the government including environmental regulation benefit to the globe.

#### 1.1.1 Project Goal and Objectives

The overall goal of the project is the sequestration of carbon in biodiverse native forest, and the alleviation of poverty in the Humbo and Soddo Woredas, with flow of benefits in the areas of education, health and food security. These goals can be specifically articulated in immediate objectives:

- To sequester CO<sub>2</sub> through the regeneration of native forest utilizing the farmer managed natural regeneration technique
- To monitor, measure and certify carbon sequestration from the project sites and to pilot development of this experience in Ethiopia
- To enhance biodiversity of the region to be utilized as a refuge for local and migratory species
- To reduce soil erosion and flooding and help in maintaining supply of subterranean steam which deliver the region's water supply
- To provide an income stream for local families from carbon credit and through sustainable management of the forest resource

## **1.2 Location**

Humbo/Soddo Community Based Forest Management Project (HSCBFMP) is located in South Nations Nationalities and Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS), Wolaita Administrative zone at Humbo and Soddo Zuria Woredas. In fact, the project is found in three Woredas namely Humbo, Soddo Zuria and Damot Gale but since the Damot Gale part is very small compared to the rest, it is named by the two Woredas, Humbo and Soddo (Damot Gale included in Soddo). The Soddo part of the forest site is found on Mount Damota, North of Soddo town. The forest site could be classified as Wet and Wurch Dega agro-climatic zone while that of Humbo is partly found at Woina Dega and the rest is located at Kola agro-climatic zones. The project is about 380 km (Soddo) to 420 km (Humbo) South of Addis Ababa, the capital of the country.

## **1.3 Population**

The Dega (highland) and Woina Dega (midland) part of the Woredas are densely populated while the Kola zone is relatively with low density of population. The total population of the two Woredas is 356146, Humbo 140237 and Soddo 215909. The total numbers of direct beneficiaries (user groups' members) in the 15 Kebele Administrations (KAs) of the project area are 95,303 people, Humbo 41,529, Soddo 44,327 and Damot 9,447 people. The average population growth rate in the area is about 3%. This high population growth rate, dependant on agriculture, has highly contributed for forest destruction and land degradation. It has negatively affected the ecosystem and the environment, which on the other hand affected soil fertility and crop production. This combined with recurrent drought in the area have affected the rural economy and the communities are suffering from food shortage for over the last twenty years and also over all poverty.



#### 1.4 Forest Situation and management options employed



Uncontrolled population growth created land hunger and forced the people to clear forest for agriculture expansion, settlement, grazing and wood production both for home use and marketing. In different to Soddo, where deforestation was due to land hunger because of high population density that forced the community to

clear forest for farmland expansion and settlement, the main causes of deforestation and forest degradation at Humbo is mainly tree cutting for wood fuel and construction materials production for sale especially to compensate food shortage created by erratic and shortage of rainfall in the area over long period of time. Over grazing by livestock coming to the area from another KAs also contributed for forest degradation. At Humbo, the famine situation had aggravated the problem as people were cutting the remaining trees to produce charcoal and fuel wood for sale to buy food.

The government has been trying to revert the situation through various means, such as preparing forest proclamation; establishing natural resources conservation and protection committees at different levels in the administrative structure; construction of checkpoints at different place along the main roads to control mobility of forest products by confiscating wood with no pass permit and guarding the forest by hired and armed forest guards and reforestation. But all the efforts couldn't save the forest. Deforestation continued with alarming rate and resulted with land degradation, soil loss, water resource depletion, loss of biodiversity and above all wood fuel and construction wood crisis in the area.

Genuine participation of local community has been said many times to be the last resort for resource management because community

participation is proved to be cost effective and could be sustainable with only some technical assistance from the government because the local communities have the knowledge and the capacity to manage the resource as they have lived with the forest for long, their whole life.

There is sufficient labor with in the community for every activity in forest management. Hope all our so far and ahead efforts to bring more sense of ownership to the resource by granting exclusive user right to community living within and around the forest resource or benefit from the resource goes to the community, it is believed that the expected goal could achieved with minimum efforts.

According to Wolaita zone finance and economy department, for example, the total degraded forestland area at Humbo alone is 21647 ha out of which only about 2728 ha is included in the project. These forest patches are highly degraded forest type classified as woodland, bushes and/or shrubs. From the total forestland at Soddo only about 2233 ha is included in the project. Though the size of the project area seems to be small compared to the large area to be managed, it is clear that the project will play piloting so that this model would be replicated to the rest of the degraded areas with very less cost.

### **1.5 Socio- Economic Characteristic of the Area**

The livelihood of the community at Humbo and Soddo Woredas where the Project operates depends mainly on mixed agriculture, crop production and livestock rearing while some are participating in off-farm activities. Farmers in the project area grow cereal crops such as maize, sorghum, barley, pulses, root crops, taro and yam, cash crops like coffee at midlands, cotton at lowlands. Small landholding, traditional farming practices and poor land management combined with erratic nature of rainfall have significantly reduced crop production on one hand and endemic diseases of livestock's, poor management and related factors have contributed to low productivity of livestock on the other hand. In general, the Woredas are defined as food insecurity areas and the people are dependent on food aid mainly during crop failure.

Better infrastructure constructed in the Woreda, feeder roads connecting all KAs and access to local markets, schools, health institutions, woreda government offices have paramount benefit to community development. Presence of social institutions, such health post and health centers, schools and veterinary posts at nearby vicinities to most of the community villages are also good potential for development. However, there are still some KAs who are very far from such institutions even those KAs where the project is operating are



missing secondary school and some have no clean water around their villages.

## **2. MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

### **2.1 Site identification and border demarcation**

#### **2.1.1 Site identification**

Based on the conservation principles of the natural forest patches at Humbo/Soddo through enhancing natural regeneration, different sites that have potential for natural regeneration and carbon sequestration were assessed and two major sites were selected with community representatives and staff from sector offices of the Woreda. These sites were visited by WVA and WB team and WVE officials at the presence of the Woreda, Zonal and regional government representatives and confirmed to be a pilot project sites. Later, consensus was reached by all stakeholders on the potential and suitability of the sites for project implementation and the community as major actor in the project implementation.

After confirmation of the project sites by stakeholders, feasibility analysis was conducted by the World Bank team, officials and hired consultants. This was basically with reference to CDM criteria for reforestation projects. During the discussion, forest definition was the big concern from WVE and WB side but later decided to use Ethiopian forest definition. Accordingly the definition is developed by EPA and circulated for all in request. The project sites were visited in order to judge it against the criteria and focus group discussion was conducted with user group members to check their interest and the motive behind the management of the forest resource.

#### **2.1.2 Border Delineation:**



Outer forest border demarcation was done by border demarcation committee elected by the communities, respective woredas government sector office representatives and the project staff. The committee recorded, coordinates using GPS at different points by moving around the forest area and maps were produced for both sites by WVE GIS staff. From this data, area for

each of the site was calculated using GIS Arc View program where the results show that Humbo site is 2728 ha while that of Soddo is 2233 ha.

Later, the inner border between KAs was delineated by the communities and government sector office and the project staff. This is also completed except for two KAs at Soddo site. Map showing Humbo site by KAs and area of each was produced and documented. Finally, agreement stating that those boundaries were delineated with consensus of the community representatives from each KA and GO representatives and WVE staff were signed for Humbo site.

## **2.2 Awareness creation**

Awareness creation to the stakeholders is one of the ways on how to make people understand the project ideas and learn from past failures and improve stockholders capacity to get active participation in the project to the best option that could benefit them. This would also create confidence on what they have to do, so that benefits could be obtained in sustainable ways. To this end, the natural resource situation and the effect of natural resource degradation was discussed with community representative and government officials before the decision was made on the concept of the resource management. Then a common understanding was created among all stakeholders to have a project that could assist the community living around the forest patches so that the user groups work hard to revert the current situation through sustainable community based forest management and by granting user rights to the eligible community members.

After consensus on the project sites reached, three days sensitization and consultants debriefing workshop was organized for representatives of stakeholders Federal EPA, SNNPRS (Government, EPA, Cooperative, Bureau of Rural Development, Bureau of Finance and Economy), Wolayita Zone (Chief Administration, Finance & Economy, Department of Rural Development & Agriculture, Natural Resource, Cooperative, Women Affair), Humbo, Sodo and Damote Galle Woredas (Chief Administration, Finance & Economy, Office of Rural Development & Agriculture, Natural Resource, Cooperative, Women Affair, Justice) and all 15 KA leaders to create better understanding of the project Goals and objectives and to draw a general direction on how to make the project run smoothly. During this workshop Mr. Tony from WVA and Mr. Paul from foreign WB consultant side gave useful presentations. This workshop created better awareness at all level from Community to the Federal and the out come of the workshop set roles and responsibilities of each party.

Major issues presented and discussed were:

- Environment policy vs CDM projects in Ethiopian context
- Regional land use/natural resource management policies and strategies

- Introduction to environment, CDM concept, Humbo/Soddo community based forest management project
- Natural resources situation and strategy to improve the management with special reference to the project sites
- Climate change Vs global reaction and possible strategies for developing countries
- WB consultants debriefing on their findings during the assessment of the project and discussions on the presentation and assigning role and responsibilities to each stakeholder and strategic guideline developing for the next steps to be followed.

Similar workshops were organized at Woreda and Kebele level. The Woreda level workshops were organized for community representatives, Women, youth, elders, religion leaders and development agents and Woreda sector office professionals. The main objective of the workshops was to let stakeholders understand the project well and organize the community to participate in the project without any discrimination of the social groups. The main topics discussed at those workshops were:

- Environment and environmental protection policy and the practical application to the project
- Natural resources situation at Humbo/Soddo and the effect of forest degradation to community livelihood
- Cooperatives law, organization and objectives and its practical relevance to the forest user groups
- Climatic change and the international conventions on carbon emission reduction and its implication to the project
- H/SCBFMP long term goal and objectives, the process and expected outcomes
- Finally different issues were discuss and action plan for awareness creation workshop at KAs was drawn and
- Contact persons from each KA who will assist in the process of organizing the communities were elected.

The PA level workshops were organized for all the community members/user group members of the project. On the workshops:

- Natural resource situation in the past and present
- The effect of the forest depletion on livelihood the community and the environment
- The project goals, objectives, and major activities to be carried out by the community

- Roles and responsibilities of the user group members in project implementation
- The management options, regeneration and enrichment planting
- Benefits, both environmental and economic that could be gained from the project and
- How these benefits could be shared equally by the members was discussed.

According to the Ethiopian constitution, the government is the owner of the natural resources. But since three to two years private and community land certification is on progress. So as to bring the genuine participation of community, in the project implementation and decision-making and benefit sharing it is clear significant work has to be done.

To create this understanding, experience sharing visit to a successful community managed forest project, Adaba Dodolla was organized for officials and experts from Humbo, Soddo Zuria and Damot Gale Woredas rural development coordination office (cooperatives promotion desk, natural resources development desk, environment protection and rural land administration desk) and zone natural resources development desk representative. The visit included general presentation on why they came to participatory forest management, how the government decided to grant exclusive user right to the community, the forest allocation agreement signing and how the user groups of the natural forest were formed and later transferred to basic cooperative societies and then to union. Field visit to one of the forest blocks was organized to see what the user groups are doing on the ground. There was discussion with Woreda cooperatives promotion desk to understand the methods they used to organize the user groups to cooperatives. By this the Woreda team has gained good experience that the communities are not destructive to nature but managers if sense of ownership to the resource is created.

## **2.3 Training**

Training is one of the methods to transfer knowledge and new ideas to the beneficiaries and increase the capacity of the trainees to manage the resource to the best technique possible so that there will be sustainable benefits from the resource. To this end, one-day training for trainers of trainees was given by WVA team mainly Mr. Tony Rinuado to selected community members from the project area and experts from Woreda. The training was on forests and trees management to improve production of biomass both in quantity and quality. The training

covered lecture, video show and practical work in the field. This was basically to give good background on how to handle natural regeneration, pruning and coppice reduction for better yield of biomass so that trees will highly contribute for carbon emission reduction.

Another member of the team, Mr. Paul Dettmann also conducted training for trainers of trainees on sampling method and biomass data collection in the project. Experts from Woreda natural resource development desk and the project had participated the training for two days. The training covered half-day lecture on standard measurement methods of biomass for carbon estimation with special reference to Albanian experience. Then one and half day fieldwork was conducted at Humbo and Soddo sites for better understanding of the method and to get rough ideas of the forest biomass so that the data will be used for estimating the number of plot to be assessed for baseline carbon stock is estimated.

### **3. FOREST DESTRUCTION PROCESS ASSESSMENT: -**

It is obvious that the forest in project sites is already destroyed and now it is left with degraded bushes on hillsides. The main causes of forest destruction were population pressure that cleared forest for agriculture land expansion, settlement, wood production and over grazing. Though this could be seen on the ground, the destruction should be confirmed by the communities living in the project area for their life long by time profile. To identify the forest destruction process from 1970 to 2006, PRA tools were used for data collection. To this end, key informants, elder groups who lived around the forest and know the history of the forest destruction were organized at both sites. Using PRA tools the destruction process was identified and in matrix and historical profile. The result of the forest destruction process is communicated to Paul who is preparing the PDD.

### **4. THE BY-LAW AND INTERNAL BY-LAW**

One of the activities of the project is to organize the user groups to cooperative societies so that they get legal entity to work with WB for carbon fund management. Accordingly, draft by-law and internal by-law of the cooperative society were produced by WB Legal Consultant and the Amharic version was discussed, commented by the special group selected from the community so that their comments are incorporated and presented to the whole user group members for final comment. Both the cooperative by-laws and the internal by-law are had discussion and comment by the elected cooperative committees and all relevant/agreed comments incorporated and sent to WB for final review. The next step will be taking this document and other

required formalities into registering Government body so as to use as cooperative document that could govern each cooperative and its members.

## **5. SOCIAL MITIGATION STRATEGY: -**

Though this is a community project, there is a need being one of the WB safeguard policy, assessing vulnerable social groups or individuals that could be negatively affected by forest area closure. These could be the community members who are fully dependent on the forest area for their livelihood. To this end, preliminary assessment was conducted at each KA (from both sites) to identify those vulnerable social groups and the process framework for mitigation strategy was produced and sent to WB. WB had comment on the strategy and sent back the document to the project to be used for preparation of action plan to mitigate those vulnerable groups. Undertaking additional socio-economic survey which gave us the socio economic situation of the community and enabling strictly to identify those dependents of the forest specifically those people who could be negatively affected by the area closure.

Socio-economic survey was conducted at Humbo site and the survey at Soddo site will be done soon. After finishing the survey, the data will be analyzed so that the result will be used for detailed mitigation action plan preparation. In general, the project believes that since those poor households are benefiting from productive and support to productive safety net programs, there will not be serious problem that could occur to any community member or social group in regard to their livelihood. They rather benefit from the project because the project is aimed for sustainable development of the area.

## **6. PHASE PORTION OF FORESTLAND CLOSURE: -**

Phasing proportion for area closure by year is important because it is not possible to manage the forest area at a time. Hence part of a particular area could be kept for grazing until the closed area grows grass for cut and carry system. This depends on the communities need to keep part of the forest area to close completely from any interference while the other part is open for controlled grazing. However, this should be confirmed through discussion with the beneficiaries/user groups. Accordingly the idea was discussed among the community representatives from Humbo site and it is under progress with Soddo. From the discussion with site communities, it is agreed to close the forest at each Kebele according to the portion indicated in the table below for the first phase, year 1.

**Table 1: Forest area of each PA at site 1 (humbo) and portion of the forest area to be closed in phase 1**

No	Kebele name	Forestland area (ha)	*Portion of forest area to be closed at phase 1 in percent
1	Abela Gefeta	176.42	100
2	Abela Longena	1043.45	75
3	Abela Shoyya	109.73	100
4	Bosa Wanche	341.96	100
5	Bolla Wanche	343.60	75
6	Hobicha Beda	372.77	100
7	Hobicha Bongota	340.04	100
	Total	2727.97	

\*Portion of the forest that could be closed by phase 1 was according to the decision by the communities of the respective Kebeles.

## **7. TREE MEASUREMENT/BASE LINE BIOMASS ESTIMATION: -**

Tree growth projection is based annual increment of the tree species. Hence there is a need to measure total tree height and diameter (at breast height) of trees of known age. Accordingly, height and diameter of sample trees of known age located at different elevation in the project were measured. This is to know the average growth of the trees and estimate the increment accordingly. The data was sent to Mr. Paul who needs to analyze the growth of the forest.

For baseline biomass estimation, the satellite imaginary map was waited for long time. Finally we got go ahead with manual methodology, the project staff developed a strategy and circulated for comment. Having the methodology approved, all site stratification, sampling, data recoding and calculation using Source Book for LULUCF formula worked out and sent to Mr. Paul and all team members including WB.

## **8. PROJECT DESIGN DOCUMENT (PDD) PREPARATION: -**

The Project Design Document (PDD) is an important document that will be used for signing the carbon purchase agreement and the basic document for project implementation. The zero and first drafts of this document was circulated to us commented and sent back. At present, the document is under process to finalize and hope near to be finalized.

## **9. SOIL TEST:**





the left shows one of the soil pits dug to collect soil samples in the forest.

Soil test is very important to estimate tree growth and future impact study. Hence, 36 soil samples collected from different parts of the two project sites by digging pits were sent to soil laboratory at Awasa for Organic Matter, Phosphorus, Nitrogen and Potassium test. The results will be communicated as soon as we receive it from the soil laboratory. The picture to

## **10. SEEDLING PRODUCTION: -**

Seedling production planned for enrichment planting in the project area by FY'06 raised and distributed to the community for planting as wood lot for their own consumption that could reduce pressure on the natural forest. The baseline survey was planned to conduct in May 2006 but delayed because of the absence of satellite image for the sites. Therefore, it was not possible to produce seedling for the FY' 06 planting in the project area because, baseline survey should be conducted first to estimate the current biomass of the forest area. However, we believe the above indicated seedlings are valuable for the communities to establish their own woodlot or plant trees around their farm boundaries. To this end, 32000 tree seedlings of local tree species ( *Moringa* and *Balanytes*) were produced and distributed to the communities in the project at Humbo site.

## **11. COOPERATIVES/USER GROUP FORMATION: -**

Once the project is identified and consensus is reached on the management at all stakeholders, organizing the communities/user groups to cooperative society is crucial to get the legal entity as an organization to have legal support for the resource management including financial issues. The process of cooperative formation is going on side by side with other activities. With this regard, election of the founding members for cooperative formation were completed at both sites and training was delivered to those representatives elected in the general assembly of each user groups. The committee discussed the by-law and internal by-law and their comments are incorporated to the documents.

At Humbo site, different cooperative committees (executive committee, audit committee and credit committee) for cooperatives formation are elected by the respective KAs. This will proceed to Soddo site soon. At both sites, the user groups had decided on amount of share and registration fees and named their cooperatives. The name will be reported as soon as legalization. In the future other sub

committees such as forest development/management committee who will prepare management plan and mobilize the members in forest management activities and forest protection committee who will assign and follow up patrolling team for forest protection.

## **12. FY'07 PLAN PREPARATION: -**

Plan for FY'2007 was prepared based on the budget (USD 200,000) committed from WVA. The plan is sent to WVA for approval. After having the approval, cash flow and purchase plan will be prepared and submitted to the respective body. The expected carry forward budget from FY'06 will also be utilized after plan revision and approval. Asking for carry forward is delayed because of the delay to get financial report.

We have already produced plan basing 200,000USD for FY'08 and we can submit when ever required.

## **13. EXPERIENCE SHARING TO VISITORS**

Even though we are under process, the visitors from WVA and WVI visited our processes and sites. The feedback we got from these visitors found truly encouraging.

## **14. FINANCE**

During the planning, it was said that the budget for FY'06 was USD 158,000 but later this was reduced to USD130711. Accordingly, the plan was prepared by prioritizing activities. In this case, forest management (nursery activities and enrichment planting) took the major share because improving the forest condition so that more carbon is sequestered is one of the objectives of the project. However, these activities were not accomplished because of the delay with baseline survey as there could not be possible to conduct any activity of forest management before baseline assessment is carried out.

### **14.1 Expenditure:**

From the budget allocated to the project, USD 130711 it was divided in a ration of 75:25% to Humbo and Soddo sites respectively. Hence the annual budget for Humbo was USD 98,033 while that of Soddo was USD 32,678. According to the financial report from the both ADPs, the expenditure for Humbo is USD 27235.13 where as that of Soddo is USD 5,114.94. This makes the total expenditure of USD 32,350.07 for both sites. Therefore, the carry forward requiring budget from this balance is

98,360.93 out of which the share for Humbo is USD 70,797.87 and that of Soddo is USD 27,563.06

#### **14.2 Additional budget (Lately arrived):**

There was additional budget of USD 27,289 allocated to the project in June 2006. This budget is not utilized. Therefore, this will make the total carry forward requesting budget from FY'06 USD 125,649.93.

#### **14.3 Reasons for such under expenditure:**

Assuming that PDD will be finalized by conducting baseline survey very early in 2006, nursery activities, tree planting and carrying out silviculture operations in the project site and increase biomass production in the fiscal year was given priority in the plan. But because of the problem with satellite image, baseline survey delayed the PDD delay and overall signing delay. This forced us not to carry out those activities mentioned above as it is not allowed to conduct any management operation in the project site before the baseline survey is conducted except preparation work.

### **15. CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS**

The project sites are far apart from each other. Currently the sites are located in four Woredas, Humbo, Soddo Zuria, Damot Gale and Gununu (new). To all these sites office contact and field work, we have only one relatively old car serving the project. On the other hand, there are many activities that need urgent reply simultaneously. Therefore, shortage of vehicle is one of our big concerns.

Bringing behavioral change is the very important element of the project implementation. Experience from other similar project (Adaba-Dodola integrated forest management project), shows that it is time taking and demands qualified and committed staff for the success. Creating this understanding among the stakeholders is a **challenge** by itself.

The nature of the project requiring a number of social, legal and technical detailed work. These have been challenge and hope future will be easier.

Vote thanks have to go to our Lord for His taking care of every thing we have been putting towards this project. Secondly, WVA, WVE, concerned Ethiopian Government Offices and the community who trust WVE and willing to continue to work with us.

Finally, reader when you read this report if you encounter un-clarities please forgive us (writer & editor) and let us to know and clear any concern.